

Jessie White

From: Jim Scholl [jim_scholl@dot.state.ak.us]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2007 7:57 AM
To: 'Jessie White'
Subject: FW: Juneau Access

Jessie, log this in as a comment. Thanks!

From: Brad Fluetsch [mailto:bjf@gci.net]
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2007 4:46 PM
To: DOT_STIP@dot.state.ak.us
Subject: Juneau Access

PLEASE FULLY FUND THE JUNEAU ACCESS ROAD

Juneau needs the road to lower our cost of living and reverse the economic and demographic trends illustrated in the Juneau Economic Indicators and United Way's 2005 Compass Report.

A road would connect Juneau to the world more efficiently and promote tourism, trade and commerce.

- A road would create many new opportunities in the tourism industry. We would need new RV services, campgrounds, restaurants, gas stations and mechanics, all increasing the size of Juneau as a consumer market, pushing the cost of living down for everyone.
- Juneau would be able to offer deep water port capabilities, giving Southeast Alaska, the Yukon, Northwest Territories and British Columbia access to China and the rest of Pacific Rim trade. All kinds of new shipping related businesses would be created. Increased shipping traffic would lower Juneau's cost of living. More jobs means opportunities for our children here in Juneau.
- A road would increase the size of Juneau as a consumer market which would lower the cost of goods: Wal-Mart versus Ben Franklin as an example. Haines, Skagway and Whitehorse residents would become much more frequent shoppers. The ferry system would be free of its north Lynn Canal duties and therefore able to enhance service between Juneau and the island communities. Juneau would benefit because those communities would increase the size of our consumer market, lowering the costs for everyone.

The 2010 census is coming and Juneau needs to change the economic and demographic trends now. The time has passed for summits - it is time to put our plans and studies into action. As mayor, I will lead the Assembly in implementing the road, sub-division, sewer and North Douglas crossing plans that are sitting on the shelf waiting to be built. By taking action now, we can reverse these trends and put Juneau back on track to being a vibrant, balanced, affordable, growing community.

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Bradley J. Fluetsch, CFA